

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 OMB-01 /084 W
----- 069088

R 020921Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

13TH ADVON UDORN

USSAG NAKHON PHNOM

DIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 5468

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TH. CB

SUBJECT: CHATCHAI ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS TO CAMBODIA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE
MARCH 31. FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF
HIS REMARKS ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS TO CAMBODIA.

REPORTER: THERE IS A NEWS REPORT STATING THAT THE MILITARY
ARE TRANSPORTING WEAPONS INTO CAMBODIA.

CHATCHAI: THERE ARE NONE. SHOULD YOU SEE ANY PLEASE
HELP BY TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS AND GIVE THEM TO ME.

REPORTER: NEWSPAPERS HAVE TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS ALREADY

CHATCHAI: WHAT KIND OF PICUTRES DID THEY TAKE?

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REPORTER: PICTURES OF TRUCKS TRANSPORTING WEAPONS.

CHATCHAI: GOOD HEAVENS TRUCKS TRANSPORTING WEAPONS
COMPLETELY COVERED BY CANVAS CAN BE SEEN IN GREAT NUMBERS
EVERYWHERE IN BANGKOK. HELP REMOVE THOSE CANVAS COVERS
TO SEE FOR CERTAIN WHAT IS UNDER THEM. IF IT CANNOT
BE SEEN WHAT IS IN THOSE TRUCKS, HOW CAN I SAY THAT THEY

ARE WEAPONS. FURTHERMORE, HOW CAN TRUCKS IN CONVOYS GO
TO BATTAMBENG AND SISOPHON SINCE BOTH THOSE TOWNS ARE
COMPLETELY ENCIRCLED AND IN A STATE OF SIEGE. THOSE TRUCKS
ARE ORDINARY TRUCKS, NOT ARMORED CARS. HOW COULD THEY
TRANSPORT WEAPONS TO ANY DESTINATION. THEY WOULD BE
SHOT AND COMPLETELY DESTROYED. I CANNOT HELP BUT FEEL
WONDER HOW ETO#TRUCKS COULD GO AND DELIVER ANYTHING TO
ANY DESTINATION. HAS ANYBODY SEEN THAT THEY WERE TRANSPORTING
WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION? NOBODY HAS SEEN ANYTHING
OF THE KIND, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY A LOT OF RUMORS AND
REPORTS SPREAD.

REPORTER: BUT THEY ARE CONFIRMED BY REPORTERS.

CHATCHAI HOW COULD WOODEN CASES CONTAINING
WEAPONS BE OPENED TO SEEN WHAT IS INSIDE THEM. IT IS NOT
AT ALL EASY TO OPEN THOSE WOODEN CASES BECAUSE THEY
USE SCREWS, NOT ORDINARY NAILS. HOW COULD YOU OPEN
THEM: GO AND LOOK AT CASES IN WHICH WEAPONS ARE PACKED
AND YOU WILL SEE THAT ALL THOSE WOODEN CASES ARE WATERPROOF,
THAT SCREWS, NOT ORDINARY NAILS, ARE USED TO CLOSE THEM
SO HOW CAN ANYBODY SEE WHAT ARE THE CONTENTS OF THOSE CASES?
MASTERS

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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